CONFERENCE OF THE EIGHTEEN-NATION COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT

ENDC/185
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LETTER DATED 18 JANUARY 1967 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS TO THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE CONFERENCE OF THE 18-NATION COMMITTEE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING RESOLUTIONS 2149 (XXI), 2153 (XXI), 2162 (XXI), 2163 (XXI), 2164 (XXI) AND 2165 (XXI) OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

I have the honour to transmit the following resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-first session, which entrust specific responsibilities to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament:

A/RES/2153A (XXI)/Rev.1 - "Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons", adopted at the 1469th meeting on 17 November 1966;

A/RES/2162C (XXI) - "Question of general and complete disarmament", adopted at the 1484th meeting on 5 December 1966;

A/RES/2163 (XXI) - "Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests", adopted at the 1484th meeting on 5 December 1966;

A/RES/2165 (XXI) - "Elimination of foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America", adopted at the 1484th meeting on 5 December 1966.

I would draw attention particularly to the following direct references to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament:

> In A/RES/2153A (XXI)/Rev.1, paragraphs 4, 6 and 8 of the operative part requesting the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to consider urgently the proposal that the nuclear-weapon Powers should give an assurance that they will not use, or threaten to use, nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon States without nuclear weapons on their territories, and any other proposals that have been or may be made for the solution of this problem; calling upon the Committee to give high priority to the question of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in accordance with resolution 2028 (XX); and requesting the Committee to report to the General Assembly at an early date on the result of its work on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

His Excellency the Representative
of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
His Excellency the Representative
of the United States of America
Co-Chairmen of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation
Committee on Disarmament
United Nations Office at Geneva

67-04354

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In A/RES/2162C (XXI), paragraphs 1 and 3 of the operative part requesting the Committee to pursue new efforts towards achieving substantial progress in reaching agreement on general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as on collateral measures, and to report to the General Assembly, as appropriate, on the progress achieved;

In A/RES/2163 (XXI), paragraph 4 of the operative part requesting the Committee to elaborate without any further delay a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests;

In A/RES/2165 (XXI), paragraph 1 of the operative part requesting the Committee to give consideration to the question of elimination of foreign military bases in countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America and to report to the General Assembly.

In connexion with paragraph 7 of A/RES/2153A (XXI)/Rev.1, the relevant documents and records are the following:

A/6350; A/6395; A/6440; A/6509
A/C.1/933; A/C.1/L.371 and Corr.1 and Add. 1-6; A/C.1/L.373;
A/C.1/L.371/Rev. 1
A/C.1/PV.1441-1450; A/C.1/SR.1441-1450
A/PV.1469

In connexion with paragraph 2 of A/RES/2162C (XXI), the relevant documents and records are the following:

A/6350; A/6395; A/6440; A/6529 and Add. 1; A/6597
A/C.1/933; A/C.1/L.370; A/C.1/L.370/Rev. 1 and Add. 1/Corr. 1 and Add. 2-8
A/C.1/L.374 and Rev. 1 and Add. 1; A/C.1/L.377; A/C.1/L.378 and Add. 1-2
A/C.1/L.379 and Rev. 1; A/C.1/L.381 and Rev. 1; A/C.1/L.382 and Rev. 1-2
A/C.1/PV. 1450-1457 and A/C.1/PV. 1460-1462; A/C.1/SR. 1450-1457 and A/C.1/SR. 1460-1462
A/PV.1484; A/PV.1498

In connexion with paragraph 1 of A/RES/2165 (XXI), the relevant documents and records are the following:

A/6399; A/6438; A/6440; A/6541
A/C.1/933; A/C.1/L.369; A/C.1/L.385; A/C.1/L.386; A/C.1/L.387
A/C.1/PV. 1463-1471; A/C.1/SR. 1463-1471
A/PV.1484

The documents and records listed above have already been circulated to the Members of the United Nations, including all members of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament.

I also have the honour to transmit herewith, for the information of the members of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, the following resolutions, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-first session, which deal with matters relating to the work of the Conference:

A/RES/2149 (XXI) - "Renunciation by States of actions hampering the conclusion of an agreement on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons", adopted at the 1458th plenary meeting on 4 November 1966;

A/RES/2153B (XXI)/Rev. 1 - "Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons", adopted at the 1469th plenary meeting on 17 November 1966;

A/RES/2162A (XXI) and A/RES/2162B (XXI) - "Question of general and complete disarmament", adopted at the 1484th plenary meeting on 5 December 1966;

A/RES/2164 (XXI) - "Question of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons", adopted at the 1484th plenary meeting on 5 December 1966.

Accept, Sirs, the assurances of my highest consideration.

U Thant
Secretary-General

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
LIMITED
A/RES/2149 (XXI)
7 November 1966

Twenty-first session
Agenda item 97

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/6496)]

2149 (XXI). Renunciation by States of actions hampering the conclusion of an agreement on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons would endanger the security of all States and hamper the achievement of general and complete disarmament,

Considering that international negotiations are now under way with a view to the preparation of a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, and wishing to create an atmosphere conducive to the successful conclusion of those negotiations,

Urgently appeals to all States, pending the conclusion of such a treaty:

(a) To take all necessary steps to facilitate and achieve at the earliest possible time the conclusion of a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in accordance with the principles laid down in General Assembly resolution 2028 (XX);

(b) To refrain from any actions conducive to the proliferation of nuclear weapons or which might hamper the conclusion of an agreement on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

1458th plenary meeting,
4 November 1966.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
LIMITED

A/RES/2153 (XXI)/Rev.1
5 January 1967

Twenty-first session
Agenda item 26

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/6509)]

2153 (XXI). Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

A

The General Assembly,

Having discussed the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,[1]

Noting that it has not yet been possible to reach agreement on an international treaty to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Viewing with apprehension the possibility that such a situation may lead not only to an increase of nuclear arsenals and to a spread of nuclear weapons over the world but also to an increase in the number of nuclear-weapon Powers,

Believing that if such a situation persists it may lead to the aggravation of tensions between States and the risk of a nuclear war,

Believing further that the remaining differences between all concerned should be resolved quickly so as to prevent any further delay in the conclusion of an international treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Convinced, therefore, that it is imperative to make further efforts to bring to a conclusion a treaty which reflects the mandate given by the General Assembly in its resolution 2028 (XX) of 19 November 1965, and which is acceptable to all concerned and satisfactory to the international community,

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1/ See A/6390.

1. Reaffirms its resolution 2028 (XX);

2. Urges all States to take all necessary steps conducive to the earliest conclusion of a treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

3. Calls upon all nuclear-weapon Powers to refrain from the use, or the threat of use, of nuclear weapons against States which may conclude treaties of the nature defined in paragraph 2 (a) of General Assembly resolution 2028 (XX);

4. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to consider urgently the proposal that the nuclear-weapon Powers should give an assurance that they will not use, or threaten to use, nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States without nuclear weapons on their territories, and any other proposals that have been or may be made for the solution of this problem;

5. Calls upon all States to adhere strictly to the principles laid down in its resolution 2028 (XX) for the negotiation of the above-mentioned treaty;

6. Calls upon the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to give high priority to the question of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in accordance with the mandate contained in General Assembly resolution 2028 (XX);

7. Transmits the records of the First Committee relating to the discussion of the item entitled "Non-proliferation of nuclear weapons", together with all other relevant documents, to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament;

8. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at an early date a report on the results of its work on the question of the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons.

1469th plenary meeting,
17 November 1966.

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling previous resolutions on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons,

Considering that the further spread of nuclear weapons would endanger the peace and security of all States,

Convinced that the emergence of additional nuclear-weapon Powers would provoke an uncontrollable nuclear arms race,

/...

Reiterating that the prevention of further proliferation of nuclear weapons is a matter of the highest priority demanding the unceasing attention of both nuclear-weapon and non-nuclear-weapon Powers,

Believing that a conference of non-nuclear-weapon Powers would contribute to the conclusion of arrangements designed to safeguard the security of those States,

1. Decides to convene a conference of non-nuclear-weapon States to meet not later than July 1968 to consider the following and other related questions:

"(a) How can the security of the non-nuclear States best be assured?

"(b) How may non-nuclear Powers co-operate among themselves in preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons?

"(c) How can nuclear devices be used for exclusively peaceful purposes?";

2. Requests the President of the General Assembly immediately to set up a prepatory committee, widely representative of the non-nuclear-weapon States, to make appropriate arrangements for convening the conference and to consider the question of association of nuclear States with the work of the conference and report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-second session.

1469th plenary meeting.
17 November 1966.

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The President of the General Assembly, in pursuance of paragraph 2 of resolution B above, designated the members of the Preparatory Committee for the conference of non-nuclear-weapon States.[2/]

The Preparatory Committee will be composed of the following Member States: Chile, Dahomey, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Spain and United Republic of Tanzania.

2/ See A/PV.1500, p.84.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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A/RES/2162 (XXI)
5 December 1966

Twenty-first session
Agenda item 27

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/6529)]

2162 (XXI). Question of general and complete disarmament

A

The General Assembly,

Considering that one of the main purposes of the United Nations is to save mankind from the scourge of war,

Convinced that the armaments race, in particular the nuclear arms race, constitutes a threat to peace,

Believing that the peoples of the world should be made fully aware of this threat,

Noting the interest in a report on various aspects of the problem of nuclear weapons which has been expressed by many Governments, as well as by the Secretary-General in the introduction to his annual report for 1965-1966 [1] and on other occasions,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a concise report on the effects of the possible use of nuclear weapons and on the security and economic implications for States of the acquisition and further development of these weapons;

2. Recommends that the report be based on accessible material and prepared with the assistance of qualified consultant experts appointed by the Secretary-General;

1/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-first Session, Supplement No. 1A (A/6301/Add.1), section II.

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3. Requests that the report be published and transmitted to the Governments of Member States in time to permit its consideration at the twenty-second session of the General Assembly;

4. Recommends that the Governments of all Member States give the report wide distribution in their respective languages, through various media of communication, so as to acquaint public opinion with its contents.

1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.

B

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law,

Considering that weapons of mass destruction constitute a danger to all mankind and are incompatible with the accepted norms of civilization,

Affirming that the strict observance of the rules of international law on the conduct of warfare is in the interest of maintaining these standards of civilization,

Recalling that the Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare of 17 June 1925[2/] has been signed and adopted and is recognized by many States,

Noting that the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament has the task of seeking an agreement on the cessation of the development and production of chemical and bacteriological weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and on the elimination of all such weapons from national arsenals, as called for in the draft proposals on general and complete disarmament now before the Conference,

1. Calls for strict observance by all States of the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, and condemns all actions contrary to those objectives;

2. Invites all States to accede to the Geneva Protocol of 17 June 1925.

1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.

2/ League of Nations, Treaty Series, vol. XCIV, 1929, No. 2138.

C

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,3/

Recalling its resolutions 1378 (XIV) of 20 November 1959, 1722 (XVI) of 20 December 1961, 1767 (XVII) of 21 November 1962, 1908 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 and 2031 (XX) of 3 December 1965,

Conscious of its responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for disarmament and the preservation of peace,

Firmly believing that it is imperative to make further efforts to achieve early progress towards general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

1. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to pursue new efforts towards achieving substantial progress in reaching agreement on the question of general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as on collateral measures, and in particular on an international treaty to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and on the completion of the test ban treaty so as to cover underground nuclear weapon tests;

2. Decides to refer to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament all documents and records of the meetings of the First Committee concerning all matters related to the disarmament question;

3. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to resume its work as early as possible and to report to the General Assembly, as appropriate, on the progress achieved.

1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.

3/ A/6390.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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A/RES/2163 (XXI)
5 December 1966

Twenty-first session
Agenda item 28

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/6530)]

2163 (XXI). Urgent need for suspension of nuclear and thermonuclear tests

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of the cessation of nuclear and thermonuclear weapon tests and the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 1762 (XVII) of 6 November 1962, 1910 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963 and 2032 (XX) of 3 December 1965,

Recalling further the joint memorandum on a comprehensive test ban treaty submitted by Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the United Arab Republic and annexed to the report of the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament,[2] and in particular the concrete suggestions contained therein,

Noting with great concern the fact that all States have not yet adhered to the Treaty banning nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water, signed in Moscow on 5 August 1963,[3]

Noting also with great concern that nuclear weapon tests in the atmosphere and underground are continuing,

Taking into account the possibilities of establishing, through international co-operation, an exchange of seismic data so as to create a better scientific basis for national evaluation of seismic events,

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1/ A/6390.

2/ Ibid., annex I, document ENDC/177.

3/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 480 (1963), No. 6964.

/...

Recognizing the importance of seismology in the verification of the observance of a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests,

Realizing that such a treaty would also constitute an effective measure to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons,

1. Urges all States which have not done so to adhere to the Treaty banning nuclear weapons tests in the atmosphere, in outer space and under water;

2. Calls upon all nuclear-weapon States to suspend nuclear weapon tests in all environments;

3. Expresses the hope that States will contribute to an effective international exchange of seismic data;

4. Requests the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament to elaborate without any further delay a treaty banning underground nuclear weapon tests.

1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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A/RES/2164 (XXI)
6 December 1966

Twenty-first session
Agenda item 29

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

/on the report of the First Committee (A/6532)/

2164 (XXI). Question of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling the declaration on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons contained in its resolution 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961,

Cognizant of the fact that the consultations carried out by the Secretary-General, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 1653 (XVI) and 1801 (XVII), with the Governments of Member States to ascertain their views on the possibility of convening a conference for the purpose of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons have not been conclusive,

Recalling that, by General Assembly resolution 1909 (XVIII) of 27 November 1963, the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament was requested to give urgent consideration to this question,

Believing that the signing of a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons would greatly facilitate negotiations on general and complete disarmament under effective international control and give further impetus to the search for a solution of the urgent problem of nuclear disarmament,

Believing further that the widest possible attendance at a conference for the purpose of signing such a convention is of vital importance for the effective and universal observance of its provisions,

Requests that the forthcoming world disarmament conference give serious consideration to the question of signing a convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear and thermonuclear weapons.

148th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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A/RES/2165 (XXI)
6 December 1966

Twenty-first session
Agenda item 98

RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

[on the report of the First Committee (A/6541)]

2165 (XXI). Elimination of foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America

The General Assembly,

Having discussed the item entitled "Elimination of foreign military bases in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America",

Considering that this question is of paramount importance and therefore necessitates serious discussion because of its implications for international peace and security,

Decides to transmit to the Conference of the Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament, for further consideration and report, all the documents and records of the meetings of the First Committee and the plenary meetings of the General Assembly pertaining to this item.

1484th plenary meeting,
5 December 1966.

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